Coal production

1220. SHRI JAGADISH JANI: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state the steps that are proposed to be taken to increase coal production in the Eighth Plan in order to meet the growing demand?

THE MINISTER FOR ENERGY (SHRI KALYAN SINGH KALVI): The Eighth Five Year Plan is under finalisation However, the Working Group on coal and lignite for the Eighth Five Year Plan set up by the Planning Commission has suggested a coal production plan of 310.31 million tonnes for the year 1994-95. The increase in production will be achieved by increasing productivity, production from the existing mines on-going projects and by development of new projects.

Gap between availability and shortage of Power

1221. SHRI JAGADISH JANI: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state-

(a) whether there is a wide gap between availability and shortage of power in the country;

(b) if so, what is the present position and what would be the requirement for different sectors by the end of the century, and

(c) what steps Government propose to take to bridge the gap?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRI BABANRAO DHAKANE): (a) and (b) During the period April-November, 1990, the energy requirement in the country was 172303 million units against which the availability was 159724 million units. During November, 1990, the energy requirement in the country was 21926 MUs against which the availability was 20120 Mus. The energy requirement at the end of the century would be 593, 770 million units

(c) The various measures being taken to improve the availability of power include expediting commissioning of new generating units, implementation of short gestation projects, improving the performance of existing power stations, reducing T&D losses, implementation of demand management and energy conservation measures and arranging transfer of supply from surplus to deficit areas

Westland Helicopter deal

1222 SHRI CHIMANBHAI MEHTA. Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state

(a) whether Westland Helicopter deal has been thoroughly investigated, if so, what are the details in this regard,

(b) whether the deal was confirmed by the concerned Ministries;

(c) whether the Experts Committee deal; if so, what are the details in this regard, and

(d) what is the amount involved in the deal and whether the persons concerned have been named and whether any disciplinary action has been taken against them?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI HARMOHAN DHAWAN) (a) to (c) A copy of the Report of the Westland Helicopters Purchase Inquiry Committee has been made available to the Parliament Library vide Index No. 258—418R

(d) The cost of 21 Westland helicopters was £65 million which came as an outright grant from the Government of United Kingdom The Report of the Committee does not call for disciplinary action against any official